

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub 1. A notes service for a computer application, comprising:
(a note creation module which captures an electronic note and associates it with a context; and

5 a note storage module which stores said captured note and associated context for later retrieval.

2. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a note retrieval module which receives a query condition and retrieves
10 said captured note and associated context if said note meets said query condition.

3. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a note management module which enables a user to modify a
15 captured note.

4. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a collaboration function which allows a plurality of collaboration
session members to synchronously view a graphical user interface of said
20 notes service.

5. A method for capturing and managing electronic notes in a computer based application, comprising:

capturing a note in a note object; and
25 associating a context with said captured note to said note object.

6. The method of claim 5, comprising:

storing said note object and said associated context in persistent
storage for later retrieval.

7. The method of claim 6, comprising:

receiving a query condition; and
retrieving said note object and said associated context if attributes of
said note object meet said query condition.

8. The method of claim 5, comprising:
displaying said note captured in said note object.

5 9. The method of claim 8, comprising:
displaying said context associated with said note object.

10 10. The method of claim 5, comprising:
capturing a second note and linking said second captured note to said
captured note in an hierarchical relationship.

11. The method of claim 5, comprising:
connecting to a collaboration session;
synchronously displaying a notes service graphical user interface to
15 all members connected to said collaboration session.

12. The method of claim 11, comprising:
locking said note to prevent other members of said collaboration
session from changing said note.

20 13. A computer readable storage medium tangibly embodying
program instructions implementing a method for capturing and managing
electronic notes in a computer based application, the method comprising the
steps of:

25 capturing a note in a note object; and
associating a context with said captured note to said note object.

14. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method
comprising:
30 storing said note object and said associated context in persistent
storage for later retrieval.

15. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method
comprising:

receiving a query condition; and
retrieving said note object and said associated context if attributes of
said note object meet said query condition.

5 16. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method
comprising:
displaying said note captured in said note object.

10 17. The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, the method
comprising:
displaying said context associated with said note object.

15 18. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method
comprising:
capturing a second note and linking said second captured note to said
captured note in an hierarchical relationship.

20 19. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method
comprising:
connecting to a collaboration session;
synchronously displaying a notes service graphical user interface to
all members connected to said collaboration session.

25 20. The computer readable storage medium of claim 19, the method
comprising:
locking said note to prevent other members of said collaboration
session from changing said note.